



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	Higginsville, MO	Accident Number:	CEN11CA613
Date & Time:	09/01/2011, 1030 CDT	Registration:	N46112
Aircraft:	TAYLORCRAFT DCO-65	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

According to the pilot, during landing the wind lifted the left wing of the tailwheel-equipped airplane. As the wing came back down, the airplane began to ground loop and the airplane veered toward the right side of the runway. Due to observed terrain obstructions, the pilot elected to abort the landing and applied engine power. He attempted to clear a row of trees, but the airplane struck the trees and fell to the ground. The pilot reported that there were no anomalies with regard to the airplane. The airplane damage included bending of the left wing.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during landing and his failure to maintain clearance from trees during the attempted aborted landing.

Findings

Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained (Cause) Climb capability - Attain/maintain not possible (Cause)
Personnel issues	Aircraft control - Pilot (Cause)

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-landing roll	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
Landing-aborted after touchdown	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	70, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With Waivers/Limitations	Last Medical Exam:	07/01/2010
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1800 hours (Total, all aircraft), 226 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	TAYLORCRAFT	Registration:	N46112
Model/Series:	DCO-65	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	L-5572
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	CONT MOTOR
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	A&C65 SERIES
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	65 hp
Operator:	On file	Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KSZL, 870 ft msl	Observation Time:	1055 CDT
Distance from Accident Site:	22 Nautical Miles	Condition of Light:	Day
Direction from Accident Site:	180°	Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Temperature/Dew Point:	32° C / 21° C
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility	10 Miles
Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	14 knots, 210°	Visibility (RVR):	
Altimeter Setting:	29.98 inches Hg	Visibility (RVV):	
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Iola, KS (K88)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	Unknown
Destination:	Higginsville, MO (HIG)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0915 CDT	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Higginsville Industrial Muni (HIG)	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	840 ft	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	16	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	4400 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full Stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	John M Brannen	Adopted Date:	11/22/2011
Additional Participating Persons:	Rod McLaughlin; FAA-Kansas City FSDO; Kansas City, MO		
Publish Date:	11/22/2011		
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=81668		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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